An Abſtract of a Letter from Dr. Peirce *of* Bath, *to one of the* S. *of the* R. S. *giving an account of a* Shell *found in one of the* Kidneys *of a* Woman.

Sir.

THE Account of the *Shell* found in the Kidney of a Woman is as follows; A Gentle-Woman of about 28 years of Age, very Fat, and Corpulent, after having been long troubled with frequent, and ſometimes violent Vomitings, fell at length into a Feaver, which had no very ill Symptomes at firſt; yet ſhe died in few days, and on a ſudden: for the ſatisfaction of her Relations, the body was opend; the lower Region being firſt examind, I quickly found what might account for her long Vomiting (and perhaps her Feaver and Death too,) *Scil.* an Ulcer in the *Pancreas*; which had Sphacelated ſome part of the Stomac and Bowells, that lay neareſt to it. But there having been many things taken for the Stone, (many Phyſicians, as well as others, imputing her Vomiting to that Diſtemper,) I was willing to ſee in what condition her Kidneys were. They were covered with a prodigious quantity of Fat; which removing with my hand, and reaching one of the Kidneys I felt ſomething prick my Finger in the lower part of the Kidney where the *Vreter* is inſerted: I preſently concluded it to be a *Stone*, and kept hold of it till I made my way to it with my knife and took it out (with an abundance of mucous bloudy matter about it,) and laid it by in the window: opening the Kidneys, I found not ſo much as Gravell (much leſs any Stone,) in either of them: upon further examination of this matter, (ſuppoſd to be a *Stone*,) by waſhing off the mucus that was about it,

I found it to be a ſmall *Shell*, very finely Wrought; in the hollow of it there was a mucous ſlimy matter, not at all unlike the ſubſtance of a ſnail as to conſiſtence; but of a bloody colour.

Fig. 3d. Repreſents the *Shell* in its true bigneſs. *Fig.* 4th. ſhews the ſame *Shell* ſomewhat magnified: thoſe indented Checkers, are every other a little depres'd, and elated: and very exactly Wrought: there are ſix or ſeven ſpiral lines or Rounds, in the Turban.

I am

Sir Your very

Humble Servant

ROBERT PEIRCE.

Bath April 11th, 1685.

Fig: 2.

Fig: 1.

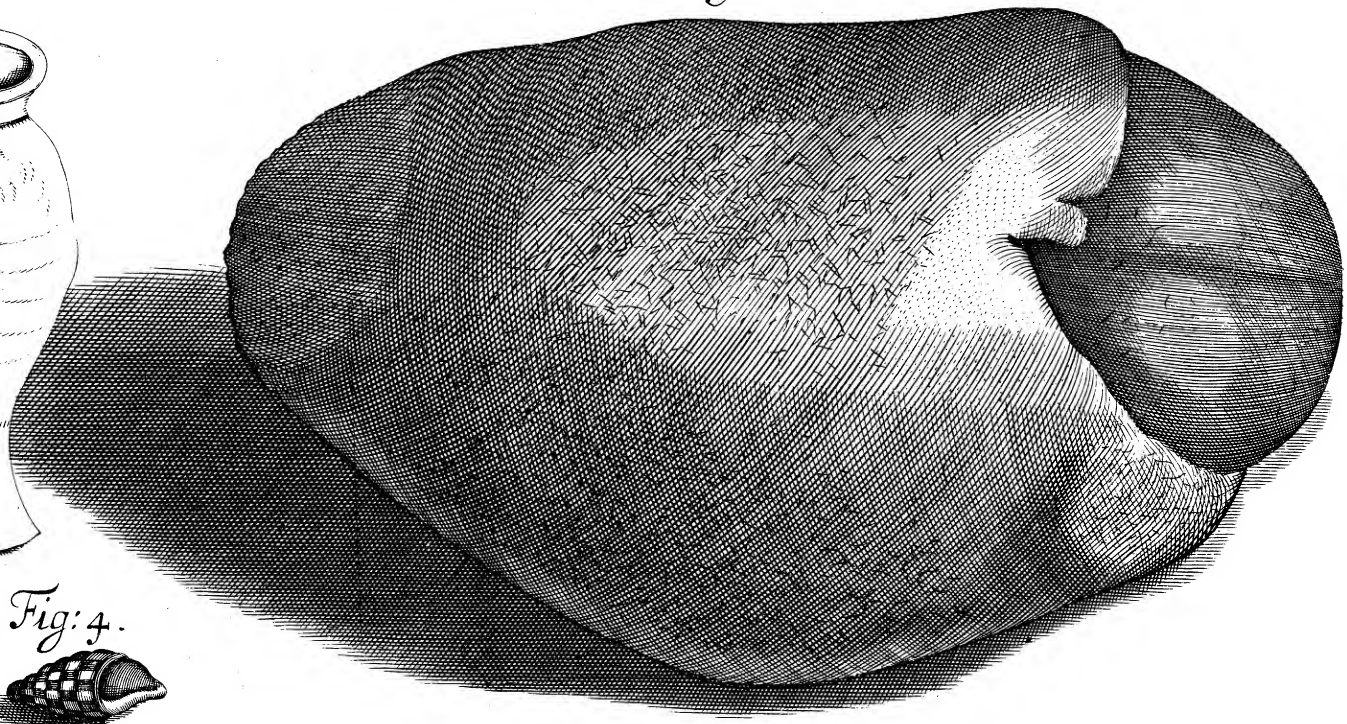

Fig: 3.
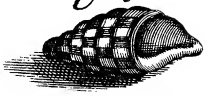
Fig: 4.